Mica Trading Corporation.

1565. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total turn-over in value of Mica Trading Corporation in Bihar during the last three years (year-wise);

(b) whether this Corporation has its own processing units; if so, the number and names of places where such units are operating;

(c) whether the Chairman of the Corporation is required to be a Mica specialist as per norms;

(d) if the answer to part (c) above be in the affirmative, whether the present Chairman of this Corporation is a Mica specialist; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons for violation of norms and what remedial steps Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) The turnover of the Corporation during the last three years is as under:—

	Rs. crores
1983-84 . . .	25.82
1984-85 . . .	27.41
1985-86 . . .	27.21

(b) The details are given below:—

Giridih : Three mica processing factories.

Jhumritelaya : Two mica processing factories.

Bhilwara : One mica processing factory.

Gudur : One mica processing factory.

(c) to (e) The job description prescribed for selection of the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of Mica Trading Corporation of India Ltd., (MITCO) prescribes that he should possess administrative experience in senior managerial position, have experience in mica field and also practical knowledge of foreign trade. The present incumbent in the Post of Chairman-cum-Managing Director of MITCO worked in senior managerial capacity in MITCO since November, 1975 prior to his selection as Chairman-cum-Managing Director by the Competent Authority.

Import of Gold for Exporting Jewellery

1566. CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheme for importing gold for manufacturing jewellery for export has not proved successful;

(b) if so, whether it is because it is top restrictive as compared to conditions prevailing in Italy, Dubai or Singapore;

(c) whether in view of big scope for increase, Government propose to reduce restrictions to the level of Italy or Singapore or Dubai; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) to (d) There are several schemes in operation which entail import of gold for the manufacture of jewellery export. Government has taken several steps to simplify operations of some of the scheme and also introduced new scheme to boost export of gold jewellery. These measures are aimed at facilitating export production of gold jewellery to be competitive in international markets in terms of quality and price, within the framework of overall policies in this sector. Government has been constantly interacting with the trade for any new policy initiative required to realise the export potential in this area.